



HEADQUARTERS  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

ACSI-ICN

29 August 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: CHAIRMAN, NIS COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: Geodetic Intelligence in the NIS (U)

1. (U) Reference Confidential Memorandum, dated 18 August 1960, of CIA NIS Chapter IX Coordinator for Chairman, NIS Committee, Subject: Maintenance of the Chapter IX.

2. (U) The Department of the Army concurs in the conclusions and recommendations contained in the referenced memorandum and its annexes except as indicated below.

3. (C) With regard to Annex B, paragraph 2b, of referenced memorandum: Clearly significant aspects of geodesy such as intercontinental connections, relationships between datum systems, etc. probably lie outside the mission of NIS Chapter IX, Map and Chart Appraisal, as presently defined. However, the Department of the Army is of the opinion that these aspects are of sufficient importance to current national intelligence objectives that they cannot be ignored altogether in the NIS. Geodetic intelligence is essential to the Department of Army mapping program and to all mapping and many other intelligence activities of the United States Intelligence Board. Geodetic intelligence is necessary, for example, to support United States satellite activities, such as those of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; to support the missile programs of Army, Navy, and Air Force; to assess Sino-Soviet Bloc missile capabilities, and to estimate relative missile capabilities, including probable effects on national security.

4. (C) Accordingly, the Department of Army proposes that a special NIS Supplement be established on the subject of Mapping and Geodesy. It is proposed, initially at least, that the Supplement be global in scope and include the following graphics with appropriate textual commentary:

Total Horizontal Accuracy, US Holdings (Accuracy of Horizontal Location of Map Identifiable Features with Respect to DOD World Geodetic System (90% Assurance))

Inter-Datum Relationships (Accuracy of Location of Local Datums with Respect to the DOD World Geodetic System)

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Estimated Accuracy of US Gravity Holdings, World-Wide

5. (C) Precedent for NIS treatment of a topic on a world-wide basis has already been established by NIS unit 108, International Communism.

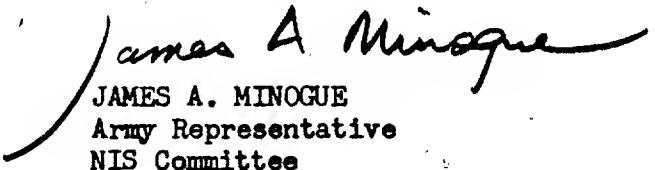
6. (C) The proposed Supplement would not increase significantly present allocations of manpower and funds for NIS purposes. As envisaged, the Supplement would require little more than periodic updatings of geodetic intelligence already contained in Joint Strategic Capabilities Plans.

7. (C) It is further proposed that NIS production responsibilities be allocated as follows:

Geodesy - Army

Gravity - Contributions from Army, Navy, and Air Force

Overall Coordination - Army

  
JAMES A. MINOGUE  
Army Representative  
NIS Committee

Copies furnished:

State Mbr., NIS Committee

Navy Mbr., NIS Committee

Air Force Mbr., NIS Committee

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